

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A scalpel blade holder with means for attaching a scalpel blade and with a handle region, wherein

the handle region comprises three lateral faces which are disposed such that a cross-section with a substantially triangular envelope results for the handle region, and

at least one of the lateral faces is provided with tactile identifying features.

2. (Original) Scalpel blade holder according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the tactile identifying features is designed as a protrusion.

3. (Original) Scalpel blade holder according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the tactile identifying features is designed as a recess.

4. (Original) Scalpel blade holder according to claim 3, wherein the recess extends over at least part of the length of the scalpel blade holder.

5. (Original) Scalpel blade holder according to claim 1, wherein at least two of the lateral faces are each provided with tactile identifying features different from one another.

6. (Original) Scalpel blade holder according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the tactile identifying features is designed as a protrusion and extends over two of the lateral faces, and at least one of the tactile identifying features is designed as a recess and is disposed on the remaining third lateral face.

7. (Currently Amended) Scalpel blade holder according to ~~one of the claims 2 or 6~~ claim 2, wherein the protrusions are designed as ribs which extend crosswise to the longitudinal axis of the scalpel blade holder.

8. (Original) Scalpel blade holder according to claim 1, wherein the envelope of the cross-section of the handle region has substantially the form of an arc triangle, and the envelope of the cross-section of the handle region has rounded corners.

9. (Original) Scalpel blade holder according to claim 1, wherein it has an end region which tapers from the handle region, and the means of attaching a scalpel blade comprise a bore, running axially through the end region, for receiving the scalpel blade.

10. (Original) Scalpel blade holder according to claim 9, wherein the bore axis of said bore runs offset from the center axis of the handle region and parallel to the center axis of the handle region.

11. (Currently Amended) Scalpel comprising a scalpel blade holder according to ~~one~~
~~of the claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1 and a scalpel blade attached thereto.

12. (Original) Scalpel according to claim 11, wherein the tactile identifying features are designed such that they represent an identification code identifying the type of scalpel blade.